

AUG-11-06 10:41

FROM-McCormick, Paulding, & Huber

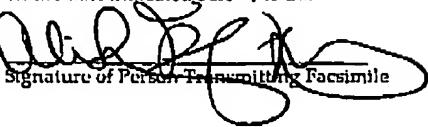
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of

Ricardo Alexander Gomez

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
PROTECTING THE DISTAL LENS OF  
ENDOSCOPES

Serial No.: 10/826,869

Filed on: April 16, 2004

) Confirmation No.: 9828  
)  
) Art Unit: 3739  
)  
) Examiner: M. J. Kasztejna  
)  
)  
) (Docket No. 5285-0002)

Hartford, Connecticut, August 11, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated July 24, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claim rejections based on the following remarks.

A listing of the claims begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 5.